INFO OCT-01 ADS-00 IO-14 HA-06 DCT-02 SY-05 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-07 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 AID-07 /106 W

106562 261533Z /50

R 221600Z OCT 88
FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5412
INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN
AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
AMEMBASSY NASSAU
AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN
USCINCSO QUARRY HTS PN
USLOSACLANT NORFOLK VA

UNCLASSIFIED

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 03 KINGSTON 7832

FOR POLAO

USCINCSO FOR INTAFF

E.O. 12065: GDS 10/21/86 (HAVERKAMP, R.) OR-M
TAGS: PINS, PINT, JM
SUBJECT: POLITICAL SITREP NO. 2

REFS: (A) KINGSTON 7749, (B) KINGSTON 7808

1. C-ENTIRE TEXT.

2. VILLENCE: DURING THE LONG WEEKEND (MONDAY, OCTOBER 20, WAS A JAMAICAN HOLIDAY IN HONOR OF NATIONAL HEROES), 16 PEOPLE WERE KILLED IN WHAT WERE REPORTED AS POLITICALLY-MOTIVATED INCIDENTS. TWO OTHERS DIED ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16, BUT WERE NOT REPORTED UNTIL SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18. AMONG THE INCIDENTS REPORTED:
-- GUNMEN SHOT AND KILLED A MAN ON THURSDAY EVENING WHILE HE WALKED HOME FROM CRICKET PRACTICE IN SPANISH TOWN.
-- ALSO IN SPANISH TOWN, AT APPROXIMATELY 3 A.M. ON FRIDAY MORNING, A WOMAN WAS KILLED AND HER 7-YEAR-OLD SON SERIOUSLY WOUNDED WHEN GUNMEN KICKED OFF THE DOOR TO HER APARTMENT AND OPENED FIRE.
-- A MAN AND TWO OF HIS TEENAGE DAUGHTERS WERE KILLED AND A THIRD DAUGHTER WOUNDED WHEN GUNMEN INVADED THEIR HOME ON FRIDAY NIGHT. POLICE REPORTED THAT THE HOME HAD EARLIER BEEN LOOTED OF APPLIANCES AND THE FAMILY HAD BEEN THREATENED BY POLITICAL ACTIVISTS. THE FAMILY REPORTEDLY SUPPORTED THE PNP. THE SHOOTING TOOK PLACE IN THE TROUBLE-PRONE OLYMPIC GARDENS AREA, A PNP STRONGHOLD IN HOTLY-CONTESTED WEST CENTRAL ST. ANDREW.
-- A MAN AND HIS WIFE WERE SHOT AND KILLED WITH HIGH-POWERED RIFLES IN THE EARLY MORNING OF SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19, ALSO IN OLYMPIC GARDENS. THE WOMAN HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED AS A JLP ACTIVIST, FORMERLY WITH THE PNP FOR THIRTY YEARS.
-- THREE PEOPLE WERE KILLED SHORTLY AFTER MIDNIGHT ON MONDAY IN HANNAH TOWN, KINGSTON, WHEN MEN ALLEGEDLY ARMED WITH MACHINE GUNS ENTERED THEIR HOUSE.
-- A WOMAN, HER 3-YEAR-OLD DAUGHTER AND A 14-YEAR-OLD NEIGHBOR WERE SHOT BY TERRORISTS IN THE CONSTITUENCY OF SOUTHERN ST. ANDREW, CURRENTLY REPRESENTED BY PNP MP ANTHONY SPAULDING.
-- JLP CANDIDATE FOR SOUTH EASTERN ST. ELIZABETH, CECIL JULY, REPORTEDLY HAD SEVERAL TEETH KNOCKED OUT, AND TWO CHILDREN WERE KILLED AND ONE WOUNDED BY ALLEGED PNP SUPPORTERS WHO ACCOMPANIED A MOTORCADE LED BY PRIMIN MANLEY.
-- TWO SINGLE WOMEN WERE KILLED AND A CHILD WOUNDED BY GUNMEN USING AUTOMATIC WEAPONS, INCLUDING M-16S, IN DENLAM TOWN, IN OPPOSITION LEADER SEAGA'S WEST KINGSTON CONSTITUENCY. A JLP SOURCE WAS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT RESIDENTS OF THE AREA "DESCRIBED AS A JLP STRONGHOLD" HAVE BEEN MOVING OUT BECAUSE OF RECENT VIOLENCE.
-- SECURITY FORCES, ACCOMPANYING PEOPLE'S NATIONAL PARTY (PNP) CANDIDATE FOR EAST PORTLAND KEITH RHODD, SHOT AND WOUNDED A YOUTH WHO PULLED A GUN ON RHODD AND HIS PARTY ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18.
-- THE POLICE INFORMATION CENTER ANNOUNCED ON OCTOBER 19 THAT 42 GUNS AND 511 ROUNDS OF AMMUNITION HAVE BEEN SEIZED BY POLICE SINCE OCTOBER 1. AMONG THE WEAPONS CONFISCATED WAS AN M-16. WHILE SPENT M-16 CARTRIDGES AND A MAGAZINE HAVE BEEN REPORTED BY THE POLICE BEFORE, THIS IS THE FIRST TIME AN ACTUA M-16 HAS BEEN REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN CAPTURED BY THE POLICE. NO OTHER DETAILS HAVE APPEARED IN THE PRESS.
-- ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18, THE POLICE HELD 26 PEOPLE AS A RESULT OF RAIDS IN THE CORPORATE AREA (KINGSTON/ST. ANDREW) AND THE PARISHES OF ST. JAMES AND CLARENDON. AS OF SUNDAY, 21 HAD BEEN CHARGED WITH VARIOUS OFFENSES AND FIVE OTHERS WERE BEING HELD FOR QUESTIONING. THE RAIDS APPARENTLY WERE RELATED TO ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF GUNS AND AMMUNITION.
-- A BEACH HOME IN ST. CATHERINE OWNED BY A SISTER OF JLP LEADER EDWARD SEAGA WAS REPORTEDLY BURNED TO THE GROUND.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY
RDS [illegible] EXEMPT. DATE CASE JUN 1992
TS AUTH.
ENDORSE EXISTING EXEMPTION(S)
DECLASSIFY
RELEASE
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

INFO OCT-01 AOS-00 IO-14 HA-06 DCT-02 AIO-07 SY-05
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3. POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS.
-THE CONTROVERSY OVER THE SHOOTING OF MP AND PNP CANDIDATE ROY MCGANN CONTINUED UNABATED OVER THE WEEKEND IN APRESS CONFERENCE ON FRIDAY OCTOBER 17,1 PRIMIN MICHAEL MANLEY DENIED THAT MCGANN HAD BEEN KILLED WHILE FIRING AT SECURITY FORCES AND SAID IT WAS ONLY AN "INSANE OR CORRUPT PERSON" WHO COULD SUGGEST THAT MCGANN, ARMED ONLY WITH A PISTOL, WOULD OPEN FIRE ON POLICE CARRYING AUTOMATIC WEAPONS. AT A JLP PRESS CONFERENCE THE SAME DAY, GENERAL SECRETARY BRUCE GOLDING SAID IN REFERENCE TO MANLEY'S STATEMENT THAT MCGANN DID NOT SHOOT AT THE POLICE, THAT "WE ARE IN A POSITION TO STATE QUITE CATEGORICALLY THAT THE PRIME MINISTER IS LYING, AND HE KNOWS THAT HE IS LYING... THE PRIME MINISTER IS PREPARED TO MAKE THAT LIE BECAUSE HE FEEELS THAT THE BALLISTIC EVIDENCE WHICH IS GOING TO SUPPORT THIS (GIC) WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE BEFORE ELECTIONS"
-THE GOVERNMENT OWNED JAMAICA BROADCASTING CORPORTION (JBC) AND THE PRO PNP DAILY NEWS HAVE GIVEN EXTENSIVE COVERAGE TO THE PNP VERSION OF THE MCGANN KILLING. THE PNP IS USING THIS INCIDENT AND OTHER RECENT INCIDENTS OF VIOLENCE TO CHARGE THAT THE JLP IS ATTEMPTING TO SHOOT ITS WAY TO VICTORY. THE POLICE HAVE BEEN CHARCATERIZED AS AN AGENT OF THE JLP IN THIS REGARD. WITH THE OFFICIAL POLICE REPORT ON MCGANN LABELED AS ZCONFLICTING WITH EYE WITNESS REPORTS. THE EIGHTEEN DEATHS REPORTED THIS WEEKEND HAVE LARGELY BEEN DEPICTED ON JBC TELEVISION AS THE RESULT OF JLP ACTIONS. THE DAILY GLEANER COLUMNISTS, MEANWHILE, HAVE HAD A FIELD DAY LISTING WHAT THEY SEE AS INCONSISTENCIES AND CONTRDICTIONS IN THE PNP VERSION OF MCGANN'S DEATH. UNFORTUNATELY, ONLY SEGMENTS OF THE AUTOPSY REPORT HAVE BEEN LEAKED TO THE PRESS, AND THE CORONER'S REPORT WILL NOT BE READY FOR SOME TIME.
- LLOYD PERRY STULTZ, PICKED TO REPLACE ROY MCGANN AS THE PNP CANDIDATE IN EAST RURAL ST ANDREW, WAS CONVICTED OF EMBEZZLING $18,738 FROM THE BANK OF NOVA SCOTIA IN 1969, ACCORDING TO THE JLP. HE WAS PLACED ON THREE YEARS PROBATION. THE JLP REPORTEDLY HAS ASKED THE DIRECTOR OF ELECTIONS IF THE CONVICTION DISQUALIFIES STULTZ. THE JAMAICAN CONSTITUTION ONLY DISQUALIFIES INDIVIDUALS PRESENTLY UNDER A SENTENCE AND NOT PERSONS WHO HAVE BEEN CONVICTED IN THE PAST.
-GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE PNP, DR. D.K. DUNCAN CHARGED ON OCTOBER 15 THAT POLICE WERE OVERHEARD ON THEIR RADIO NETWORK ON OCTOBER 14 TO SAY "WE ARE GOING TO KILL D.K. DUNCAN HUGH SHALL AND DUDLEY THOMPSON." A POLICE SOKESMAN DESCRIBED THE CHARGED AS A "FOBRICATION" AIMED AT VILLIFYING THE SECURITY FORCES.
-- IN AN OCTOBER 19 SPEECH AT AN ISLAND WIDE CONFERNECE OF THE BUSTAMANTE INDUSTRIAL TRADE UNION (BITU) OPPOSITION LEADER SEAGA SAID THAT IF ELECTED HE WILL FIGHT THE US FOR BETTER TARIFFS AND QUOTAS FOR JAMAICAN PRODUCTS. SEAGA ADVOCATED INCREASED TRADE WITH THE US AS A WAY OUT OF JAMAICA'S ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES AND ENCOURAGED THE BITU TO CONVINCE THE AFL-CIO TO MAKE A SPECIAL CASE FOR JAMAICA. SEAGA DESCRIBED JAMAICA AS A RAVAGED AND DESTROYED COUNTRY THAT HAS GONE THROUGH A MAJOR WAR WHICH NEEDS THE KIND OF ASSISTANCE AND SUPPORT WHICH "HELPS US TO BE PUT BACK ON OUR FEET AGAIN" WHILE NOTING THAT JAMAICA HAS A POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC SYSTEM SIMILAR TO THE WEST, HE STRESSED JAMAICA'S INDEPENDENCE, SAYING " THERE IS PLENTY OF DIFFERENCE BETWEEN WHAT WE CONSIDER TO BE IN OUR BEST INTEREST AND WHAT WASHINGTON CONSIDERS TO BE IN OUR BEST INTEREST",
-- AT THE SAME MEETING BITU PRESIDENT HIGH SHEARER SAID THAT THERE IS NO POWER OR INFLUENCE THAT WILL EVER GET HIS UNION TO WORK WITH COMMUNISTS. THE REMARK WAS IN RESPONSE TO AN EARLIER STATEMENT BY HUGH SHALL THAT A THIRD TERM PNP GOVERNMENT" WOULD HAVE TO TACKLE THE BUSINESS OF TRADE UNION TRIBALISM".

ACTION ARA-16

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-- A NEW JBC/DAILY NEWS POLL, PUBLISHED ON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19, HAS THE PNP AHEAD BY ONE PERCENT (50.5 TO 49.5). THE POLL WAS CONDUCTED AMONG 1,237 PEOPLE IN NINETY POLLING DIVISIONS FROM THE SIXTY CONSTITUENCIES. THE POLLSTERS (DEREK GORDON, EDDIEGREEN AND WENTY BOWEN ALL OF UWI) CLAIMED THAT THE VOTE IN 1976 IN THE SAMEAREAS WAS WITHIN ONE-HALF OF ONE PERCENT OF THE NATIONAL VOTE. THE NEW POLL INDICATES THAT THE PNP IS STRONGEST IN THE CORPORATE AREA AND THE EASTERN AN SOUTHERN PARISHES, WITH THE WESTERN AND CENTRALPARISHES SHOWING A JLP LEAD. THE JBS/DAILY NEWS POLL CONFLICTS WITH DR. CARL STONE'S POLL, PUBLISHED SERIALLY IN THE DAILY GLEANER DURING THE FIRST WEEK OF OCTOBER (REF D), AND DOES NOT APPEAR TO BE AS DETAILED OR THOROUGH AS THE STONE POLL. STONE'S POLL, CONDUCTED FROM SEPTEMBER 5 TO 14, SHOWS THE JLP AHEAD BY 7.6 PERCENT NATIONWIDE, WITH LEADS IN ALL AREAS EXCEPT THE CORPORATE AREA AND THE PARISH OF ST. MARY.

-- THE INDEPENDENT ELECTORAL COMMISSION HAS BEEN RUNNING A SERIES OF ADVERTISEMENTS IN THE PRESS URGING PEOPLE TO VOTE IN THE ELECTION, USING THE SLOGAN "WE'RE TAKING CARE ELECTIONS ARE FAIR", THESE ADS PROVIDE ADVISE ON HOW TO GO ABOUT VOTING AND WARN AGAINST TRYING TO VOTE TWICE OR IMPERSONATING ANOTHER VOTER.

-- UNDER THE HEADLINE "JLP VIOLENCE AND POLICE ABUSES ESCALATE", THE PNP YOUTH ORGANIZATION (PNPYO) PUBLISHED AN ADVERTISEMENT IN THE OCTOBER 19 DAILY NEWS ACCUSING THE JLP OF A SERIES OF VIOLENT ACTS DIRECTED AGAINST PNP CANDIDATES AND SUPPORTERS. AFTER A LONG LIST OF ALLEGED JLP VIOLENCE, THE ADVERTISEMENT ENDS WITH A CLAIM THAT JLP GUNMEN RECEIVED A "PAY INCREASE" ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18, FOR SHOOTINGS AND MURDERS OF PNP SUPPORTERS.

-- THE JLP AND THE PNP ARE PAINTING DISTINCTLY DIFFERENT PICTURES OF THE RECENT UPSURGE OF POLITICAL VIOLENCE. THE JLP, WHICH IS GETTING EXTENSIVE PUBLICITY IN THE DAILY GLEANER, MAINTAINS THAT THE PNP KNOWS IT WILL LOSE IN A FREE ELECTION AND WILL TRY TO POSTPONE THE ELECTION THROUGH VIOLENCE. THE OPPOSITION HAS CHARGED THAT THE PNP IS USING THE GOVERNMENT-OWNED MEDIA TO ORCHESTRATE A CAMPAIGN TO PERSUADE VOTERS THAT POLITICAL VIOLENCE HAS BEEN INITIATED BY THE JLP AND TO VERBALLY ATTACK THE SECURITY FORCES IN ORDER TO REDUCE THEIR EFFECTIVENESS. SPEAKING BEFORE A BITU CONFERENCE ON OCTOBER 19, SEAGA CHARGED THAT THE JBC IS LAYING THE BASIS TO JUSTIFY A PNP COUNTER-ATTACK WHICH WOULD INCLUDE WIDESPREAD RIOTS ENABLING THE PRIME MINISTER TO POSTPONE THE ELECTIONS ON THE GROUNDS THAT THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESS HAD BEEN DISRUPTED. THE POSTPONEMENT, HE SAID, WOULD ALLOW THE RULING PARTY TIME TO CATCH UP WITH THE JLP'S LEAD. SEAGA WARNED THAT SHOULD MANLEY PURSUE THIS STRATEGY, THEN "THE COUNTRY WHAT WILL REMAIN IS NOT ONE THAT CAN BE GOVERNED."

--THE PNP, BY CONTRAST, CLAIMS THAT POLITICAL VIOLENCE RESULTS FROM JLP DESPERATION, AND THAT THE OPPOSITION INTENDS TO TAKE OVER THE GOVERNMENT BY FORCE. THE RULING PARTY'S SPOKESMEN POINT TO THE POLLS WHICH SHOW JLP SUPPORT ERODING AND CLAIM THAT THE PNP HAS TAKEN THE LEAD. THE GOVERNMENT-OWNED MEDIA DAILY CARRY ACCOUNTS OF POLITICAL VIOLENCE WHICH ARE ALLEGEDLY INTENDED TO INTIMIDATE PNP VOTERS. THERE ALSO IS TALK AMONG PNP RADICALS THAT THE WAY IS BEING PREPARED FOR A COUP BY THE SECURITY FORCES TO PREVENT THE PNP FROM WINNING A THIRD TERM. (WE DO NOT SEE ANY EVIDENCE THAT THIS IS A POSSIBILITY.)

LAWRENCE